

Fremont Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes with the Fremont Rescue and Fire Departments' Point and LOSAP systems combining task group on August 1, 2006.

The meeting began at approximately 7:00 pm at the Fremont Safety Complex. Present were Thom Roy, Darrell Turner, Rick Butler, Dick Heselton, Chris Braid, Lisa Maffei, Don Gates, Peter Bolduc and Gene Cordes.

Thom Roy asked the Selectmen if they would like to speak. Gene Cordes thanked Thom for the opportunity and spoke on behalf of the Board of Selectmen about recent discussions on July 20 with Department Heads Heselton and Maffei regarding the progress on developing plans to combine the departments. He shared with those present that the Department Heads urged the Board of Selectmen to attend their meetings to facilitate consensus building and progress in general. Cordes reported that at the Board's last meeting, Selectman Gates volunteered to fill that role with the full support of the entire Board.

Cordes shared with the group that in the early spring the Board had a discussion about the department combining process. The consensus of the Board at that time is that it would prefer that the departments do the work on the plan development and that Board's role would be best to work through the Department Heads to make sure that timely progress is being made. The initial time constraints are budget sensitive, meaning the plan should be completed by early September so it can be included in the 2007 budget planning. The other concern of the Board's regarding the planning process, is that the focus be on the developing a "combining" plan that is in the best interest of the Town from the perspective providing efficient quality cost effective services. The Board did not want to allow the planning to become focused on individuals, personal rank, or individual departments.

Darrell Turner reported that significant progress had been made at their most recent meeting. Thom Roy led a discussion about the 10 points of consensus from the last meeting along with several schedules of information that illustrated data points from their discussion. The Selectmen had a few questions for clarification purposes and again, reiterated, their interest in knowing that the framework for the combining the departments was being created in a positive, productive and timely manner. They want to review the completed proposal.

The Sub-Committee indicated that their work could be done with in a week or two and they requested to continue to work on next steps which will be the 2007 budget(s). The Department Heads indicated that it would be fine with them and everyone agreed with them. After the budget portion of the plan is completed they will next work on the command structure.

At 8:00 pm Selectmen Cordes and Bolduc and Chief Heselton left the meeting. Selectmen Gates stayed on as a Board of Selectmen representative to the meeting discussions as per the Board's prior decision at the 7/20/06 Selectmen's Meeting.

Submitted by Gene Cordes

Notes approved by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of August 3, 2006.